

PACCAR Inc.

Law Department

May 21, 1999

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DEFECTS INVESTIGATION

99V-128.002 (01)

Associate Administrator for Enforcement
National Highway Traffic Safety Administration
400 Seventh Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20590

Re: Safety Recall Campaign - SKF Truck Hubs installed in Meritor Front Axles

Dear Sir or Madam:

On May 7, 1999 PACCAR Inc was notified that a defect which relates to motor vehicle safety exists in the Kenworth Truck Company vehicles described below, and is furnishing notification to the NHTSA in accordance with 49 CFR Part 573 "Defects and Noncompliance Reports".

Description of the Defect

SKF and Meritor determined that their hubs identified as Production Level 2 Truck Hub Units (THUs) can experience hub flange fatigue cracking which can result in wheel separation. The THUs are supplied to Meritor Automotive, Inc. for use on the Meritor FF-981, FF-982, FF-983, FF-984, FF-986 and FF-987 front axles. The hub is a part of the axle assembly Meritor supplied to PACCAR. Axles containing the suspect hubs were manufactured between February 1996 and January 1998.

The suppliers of the suspect parts are as follows:

Front Axle

Meritor Automotive, Inc.
Automotive Division
2135 West Maple Road
Troy, MI 48084

Hub

SKF USA Inc.
1100 First Ave.
King of Prussia, PA 19406

Identification of Affected Vehicles

The vehicles involved in the subject recall are those which were manufactured with the FF-981 - FF-987 front axles, and based upon preliminary information supplied by Meritor and on an initial search of manufacturing records, are:

- Kenworth models T800 and W900 built between January 1999 and December 1997. From the initial review, Kenworth determined the recall population is comprised of 13 vehicles in total.

Chronology of Events Leading to Recall

SKF and Meritor notified Kenworth of the defect on May 7, 1999. Pursuant to this notification, the Kenworth Safety Committee decided on May 19, 1999 to conduct a recall of all affected vehicles.

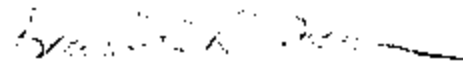
Description of Remedy

Recalled vehicles will be inspected at an authorized PACCAR dealership to confirm that the SKF Production Level 2 Truck Hub Units are installed on the front axle and to determine the axle build date. If the date code indicates it was manufactured during the suspect time frame, the Production Level 2 THU will be removed and replaced with a Production Level 3 THU.

Identification of Recall Schedule

PACCAR anticipates that the owner notification campaign will be initiated within 30 days. Kenworth has assigned the number "99KW02" to this campaign.

Very Truly Yours,



Kenneth R. Brownstein
Senior Counsel